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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 On November 17, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

RONALD G. FRENCH et al.

Application No.: 09/963,848

Filed: September 25, 2001

PERICARDIUM REINFORCING For:

DEVICES AND METHODS FOR

USING THEM

Customer No.: 20350

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner:

Confirmation No. 9332

U. CHATTOPADHYAY

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3738

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT

09963848 00000126 201430 11/21/2003 NDAMTE1

55.00 DA 01 FC:2251

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 13 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 16 of this paper.